


REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are presently pending in this application. Claims 1-11 stand in their original form and have not been amended in this paper. In the Office Action dated 1 April 2005, claims 1-11 were rejected under the non-statutory doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,091,498 ("the '498 Patent"). Although the applicants do not concede to the merits of this rejection and contend that the pending claims are patentable over claims 1-11 of the '498 Patent, please find enclosed a Terminal Disclaimer directed to the '498 Patent to expedite allowance of the pending claims. Therefore, the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 1-11 should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are patentable over the cited art. The applicant accordingly requests reconsideration of the application and a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-3258.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 1 July 2005



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